

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-8, 10-79, 81, 82, and 84-103 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 5, 14, 18, 30, 58, 64, 66, 77, 81, 82, 99, 101, and 103 being the independent claims. Claims 9, 80, and 83-98 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claims 1, 5, 10, 11, 14, 18, 20, 57, 58, 64, 68, 70-74, 77, 81, 82, 100, and 103 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 30-57, 66-76, and 99-102 are allowed or would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection(s) under 37 CFR 1.75(a) set forth in the Office Action. Applicants further acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 5, 6, 8-18, and 23-29 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection(s) under 37 CFR 1.75(a) set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims and that claims 64, 65, and 81-83 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 5, 14, 18, 64, 81, and 82 have been rewritten to include limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claim. Claim 6 depends from claim 5; claims 15 and 17

depend from claim 14; and claim 65 depends from claim 64. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection for claims 5, 6, 14, 15, 17, 18, 64, 65, 81 and 82 is therefore respectfully requested.

Objections to the Drawings

In the Office Action, FIGs. 10, 13B, 15, and 17 of the drawings were objected to because of typographical errors. Applicants have amended FIG. 10 to remove the reference character 1082. FIG. 13B has been amended to add the reference sign 1309 and FIG. 15 has been amended to add the reference sign 1509. FIG. 17 has been amended to change the reference sign "1640" to "1740," as suggested by the Examiner. Replacement drawing sheets for FIGs. 10, 13B, 15, and 17 are attached hereto showing the changes.

Objections to Specification

In the Office Action, the Examiner pointed out errors in paragraphs [0085] and [0108] of the specification. Applicants have amended these paragraphs, as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to the specification be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Objection to Abstract

In the Office Action, the abstract was objected to due to a typographical error. Applicants have amended the Abstract, as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Abstract be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Objections Under 37 CFR 1.75(a)

In the Office Action, claims 1-29, 57, 68-74, 100, and 103 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(a) for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In the objection, the Examiner pointed to various typographical errors and minor defects in the claim language. Claims 1, 20, 57, 68, 71-73, 100, and 103 have been amended to correct the minor defects and typographical errors and to improve their form, as suggested by the Examiner. Because the errors and defects are minor and the Amendments are not narrowing, Applicants submit that estoppel should not apply to these claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Petite or Hitt

Claims 58-63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Petite, et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,437,692 (Petite) or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hitt, U.S. Publication No. 2004/0100394 (Hitt). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In order to expedite prosecution, and without acquiescing to the rejection, claim 58 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 30. Applicants submit that neither Petite nor Hitt teach or suggest a "RF addressable sensor network" comprising "one or more RF addressable sensors" and "one or more wireless sensor readers, wherein the one or more wireless readers include: at least one antenna configured for communication with the one or more radio frequency (RF) addressable

sensors, a controller, a network communications module coupled to the controller, the network communications module having an interface for coupling to a communications network, a logic module coupled to the controller, and a user interface, wherein the logic module includes a sensor communications module for receiving sensor data from the one or more RF addressable sensors," as recited in amended claim 58.

For at least the above reasons, amended independent claim 58 is patentable over Petite or Hitt. Claims 59-63 depend from claim 58. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, claims 59-63 are patentable over Petite or Hitt. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Hitt, Hamel, or Skorpik

Claims 1 and 77-80 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by any of Hitt, Hamel, or Skorpik, U.S. Publication No. 2005/0087235 (Skorpik). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In order to expedite prosecution and without acquiescing to the rejection, claim 1 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 9. Applicants submit that amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Hitt, Hamel, or Skorpik. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested. Furthermore, allowable dependent claims 8, 10-13, 16, and 23-29 depend from amended independent claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to these claims is therefore respectfully requested.

In order to expedite prosecution and without acquiescing to the rejection, claim 77 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 83. Applicants

submit that amended independent claim 77 is patentable over Hitt, Hamel, or Skorpik.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 78-80 depend from claim 77. For at least the reasons discussed above in regard to amended claim 77, and further in view of their own features, claims 78-80 are patentable over either Hitt, Hamel, or Skorpik. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Hitt or Hamel

Claim 103 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hitt or Hamel, U.S. Publication No. 2004/0113790 (Hamel). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claims 2-4 and 7 were also rejected under U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hitt or Hamel. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In order to expedite prosecution and without acquiescing to the rejection, claim 103 has been amended to incorporate subject matter of allowable claim 9. Applicants submit that amended independent claim 103 is patentable over Hitt or Hamel. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested. Claims 2-4 and 7 depend from claim 1. For at least the reasons discussed above for claim 1, and further in view of their own feature, claims 2-4 and 7 are patentable over Hitt or Hamel. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Hamel or Skorpik

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by either Hamel or Skorpik. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 20 depends from claim 1. For at least the reasons discussed above in regard to amended claim 1, and further in view of its own features, claim 20 is patentable over either Hamel or Skorpik. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Hamel

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hamel. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 21 depends from claim 1. For at least the reasons discussed above in regard to amended claim 1, and further in view of its own features, claim 21 is patentable over Hamel. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Skorpik

Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Skorpik. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 22 depends from claim 1. For at least the reasons discussed above in regard to amended claim 1, and further in view of its own features, claim 22 is patentable over Skorpik. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over any of Hitt, Hamel, or Skorpik. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 19 depends from claim 1. For at least the reasons discussed above in regard to amended claim 1, and further in view of its own features, claim 19 is patentable over Hitt, Hamel, or Skorpik. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

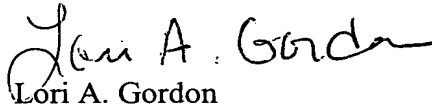
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori A. Gordon".

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Date: November 7, 2005

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